

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

TWO NEW SUBSPECIES OF BIRDS FROM WESTERN
NORTH AMERICA

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In the course of studying collections taken in connection with the investigation of birds in the Northwest it became apparent that two resident species, the Chestnut-backed Chickadee and the Winter Wren, represented distinct and undescribed races. These are as follows:

Parus rufescens caliginosus new subspecies

Characters.—Similar to *Parus rufescens rufescens* but darker; pileum and hindneck clove brown rather than sepia brown, back, scapulars and rump dark chestnut; sides and flanks likewise dark chestnut; chin, throat, and upper part of chest so dark brown as to be almost black, and lacking the reddish tinge characteristic of *rufescens*. There is no appreciable size difference.

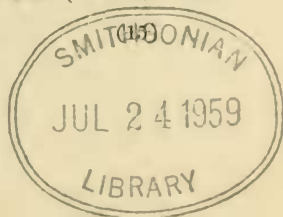
Measurements.—Adult male - wing 60-64.5(62.3); tail 47.5-52(50); exposed culmen 8-10(9). Adult female - wing 54.5-59(57.3); tail 44-48(46); exposed culmen 7.5-10(8.8).

Type.—Adult male No. 394631, United States National Museum (Fish and Wildlife Service collection), 20 miles northeast of Moscow, Latah County, Idaho, June 14, 1947; David W. Johnston, original number 134.

Distribution.—Resident in southern British Columbia, east of the coast ranges, northern Washington, east of the Cascades, northern Idaho, northeastern Oregon, and western Montana west of the Continental Divide.

Remarks.—In worn breeding plumage, both *rufescens* and *caliginosus* are noticeably lighter in the color of both the upper parts, and the throat and chest, than in fresh plumage, but regardless of season *caliginosus* can be distinguished by its darker coloration.

Specimens of *Parus rufescens caliginosus* examined.—Total number 23, from the following localities: *Idaho*: Latah County, Moscow, November 11, 1947, female adult; Moscow, 20 miles northeast, June 11, 1947, female adult; June 14, 1947, 2 male adult; June 17, 1947, male immature; Harvard, July 8, 1947, male immature; East Fork Meadow Creek, June 24, 1947, female immature; Deary, May 14, 1948, male adult; December 13, 1951, 2 male adult; February 19, 1953, 2 female adult; Nez Perce County, Lewiston, December 21, 1952, female adult; February 13, 1953, female adult; March 4, 1953, male adult; March 16, 1953, male adult; Clearwater County, Headquarters, February 28, 1952, 2 female adult; March 18, 1956, male adult. *Washington*: Bumping Lake, September 1, 1917, adult female; Blue Mts. (21 miles south-



east of Dayton), June 12, 1919, adult male. *Montana*: Columbia Falls, February 18, 1893, adult male; March 6, 1896, adult male.

***Troglodytes troglodytes salebrosus* new subspecies**

Characters.—Similar to *Troglodytes troglodytes pacificus* but decidedly darker, both above and below. Upper parts chocolate brown rather than reddish brown (light russet) as in *pacificus*. Throat, chest, and flanks of under parts dull brown in contrast to light brown of *pacificus*. The barring of the back, characteristic of the other races, especially those in the eastern part of the range of this species, obscure or totally lacking. There is no appreciable size difference.

Measurements.—Adult male – wing 44.5-50(47.3); tail 28-33(30.5); exposed culmen 10-12(11). Adult female – wing 42-48(45); tail 27-30.5(28.2); exposed culmen 10-12(11).

Type.—Adult male No. 465530, United States National Museum (Fish and Wildlife Service collection): Dismal Lake, Shoshone County, Idaho, June 21, 1951. Thomas D. Burleigh, original number 17217.

Distribution.—Breeds in southern British Columbia, east of the coast ranges, southwestern Alberta, northern Washington east of the Cascades, northern Idaho, northeastern Oregon, and western Montana west of the Continental Divide. Winters at lower altitudes at the southern edge of its breeding range, and casually farther south.

Remarks.—*Troglodytes troglodytes salebrosus* is the least rufescent of the present recognized races. This character is evident not only in adults, but in juvenal specimens taken during the summer months prior to the post juvenal moult. Immature specimens of *pacificus* taken after the post juvenal moult, are noticeably darker than breeding specimens and in their appearance suggest *salebrosus*, but their rufescent upper parts readily distinguish them from this new race. In this connection it is worth noting that what might be interpreted as color phases in *pacificus* are actually age differences. Birds perceptibly darker than typical breeding individuals proved, where fall specimens were concerned, to have the thin almost transparent skull characteristic of young birds, and consequently were young of the year. This color difference would appear to remain unchanged until the first post nuptial moult, when the characteristic rufescent plumage of *pacificus* is acquired. Females taken at Tillamook, Tillamook County, Oregon, on March 18, 1954, and at Quinalt, Grays Harbor County, Washington, on March 22, 1954, are indistinguishable in their dark coloration from specimens in this plumage taken in this coastal region in the fall.

Specimens of *Troglodytes troglodytes salebrosus* examined.—Total number 39, from the following localities: *Idaho*: Latah County, Moscow, October 6, 1948, male adult; October 27, 1950, male adult; October 25, 1951, female adult; March 26, 1952, male adult; September 29, 1952, male adult; October 19, 1953, female adult; April 10, 1954, male adult; April 17, 1954, female adult; October 4, 1954, male adult; May 2, 1955, female adult; October 13, 1955, female adult; September 7, 1956, female immature; March 7, 1957, male adult; November 2, 1957, male adult; Deary, May 7, 1948, male and female adult; November 13, 1948, male adult; December 13, 1951, male and female adult; Harvard, June 30, 1953, male juvenile; Clearwater County, Headquarters, June 14, 1951, male adult; October 27, 1951, male adult; November 11, 1951, male adult; November 7, 1952, female adult; April 21, 1953, female

adult; Shoshone County, Avery, June 20, 1951, male adult; Dismal Lake, June 21, 1951, male adult; Bonner County, Hope, June 13, 1903, female juvenile; Priest Lake, October 2, 1897, male adult; Sandpoint, November 26, 1948, female adult; Boundary County, Bonner's Ferry, November 23, 1948, female adult. *Washington*: Grays Harbor County, Aberdeen, January 26, 1957, female adult. *Oregon*: Strawberry Mts., Grant County, July 14, 1915, male adult. *Montana*: Java, June 19, 1895, male adult; Gird Creek Canyon, Ravalli County, October 24, 1945, female adult. *Nevada*: Cottonwood Range, September 19, 1896, female adult; Truckee Reservation, December 25, 1867. *Wyoming*: Teton Pass, September 15, 1910, female immature; Moose Creek, Teton Mts., August 27, 1910, male immature. *British Columbia*, Moose Pass, July 29, 1911, male adult.